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Congress of the United States
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July 15, 2010

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ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

Mr. Joseph H. Boardman
President and CEO
Amtrak
60 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Boardman:

I am writing to you concerning the unfortunate situation at the Amtrak station in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. As you are aware, the County of Lancaster via the Lancaster County Transportation Authority (LCTA) has taken the lead in completely renovating the station at the cost of approximately \$12 million. Almost all of the financing has been provided by the MPO/TIP process. No Amtrak money has been utilized.

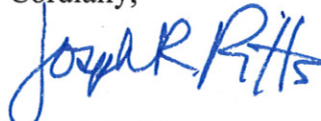
The renovations and improvements are extensive and will be of great benefit to my constituents that use the Lancaster Amtrak station. Also, I believe that Amtrak as a passenger rail system will be enhanced with the upgrades to the station.

It is my understanding that recent substantial increases in the "force account" have jeopardized the completion of this project. In my opinion, this is unacceptable. While I recognize that the \$2.4 million is allegedly a "worst case" scenario, as you can imagine, a potential increase from \$883,000 to over \$2.4 million has significant ramifications at many levels.

Based on this, I would like to respectfully request a meeting in Lancaster with all appropriate groups and organizations represented within the next two weeks. I strongly believe it would be a tragedy to allow any delay in the completion of this project.

Thank you very much for the time and attention that you devote to this important matter.

Cordially,



Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress